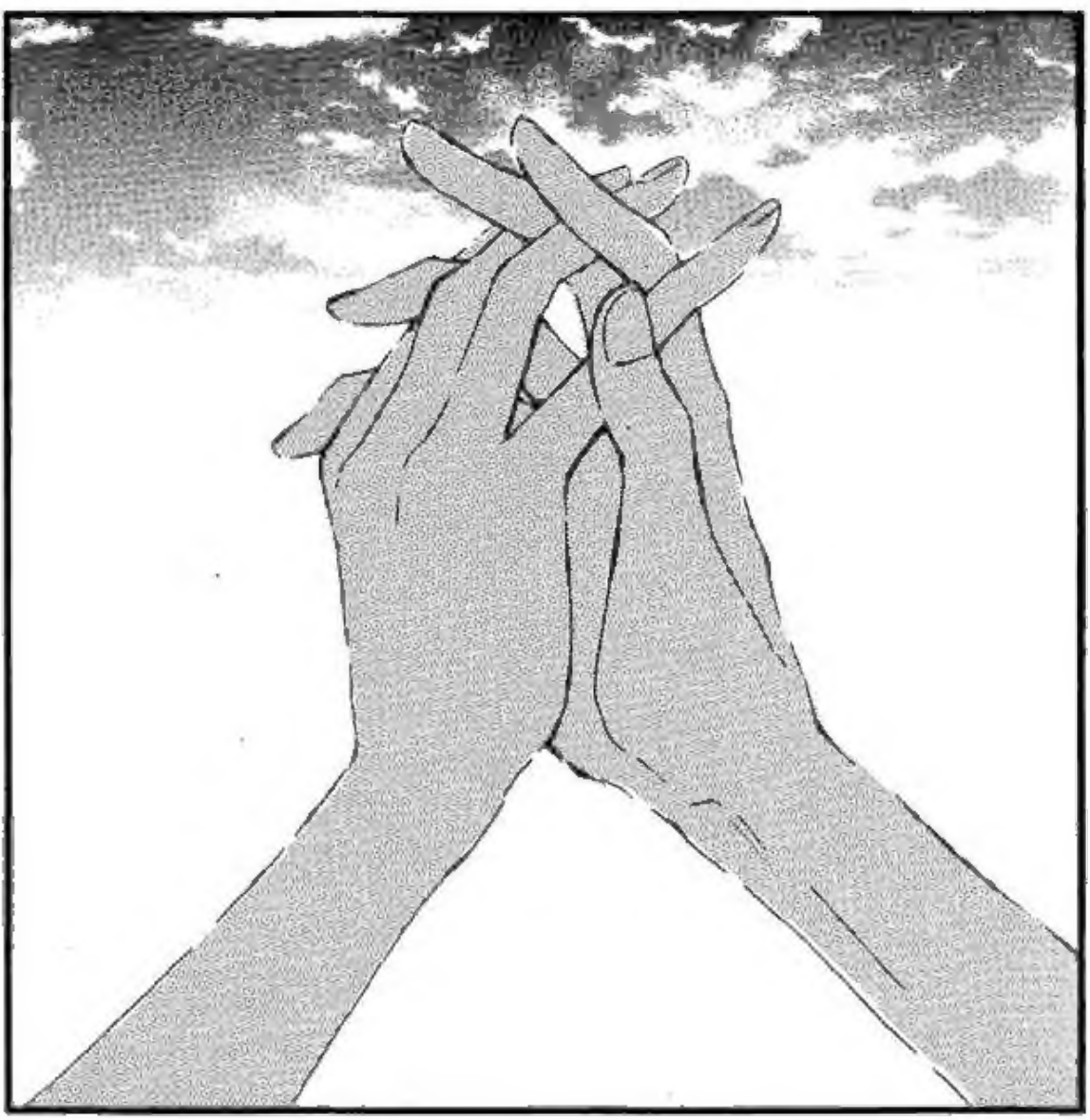
花とゆめCOMICS

Fragments of Summer

AMANO Shinobu



I'm always running
on a straight road surrounded by the rustling, summer grass.
Together with the wind blowing,
the breeze in my hair,
and my skirt fluttering,
I'm running towards that person.

Natsu no Kakera
夏のかけら
Fragments of Summer

I met him the summer I turned 14.
Woah— There are mountains everywhere!
And the air's so fresh...
We had heard that my grandfather had been hospitalized.
So we decided to not go anywhere and visited him instead
He was admitted into a small and old hospital.
Miyuki you should go and say hi to your granpa.
Your dad and I are going to have a chat with the doctor
But luckily his condition wasn't very serious,
and we were relieved when we heard that he could leave the hospital soon.
Okay!
Aha!
Let's see, the corner at the far end...
There he is!
he's sleeping
Grandpa! Your cute grand-daughter is here!
THUD—

...Huh?
Wh-wh-who's this!?
KYAAA-!?
It sure has been a while, my grand-daughter! come here!
BAM
EH?
That was how we first met.
I'm really sorry...!
W- well, I guess I'll just leave and...
Ugh...
Hey, where are you from?
I haven't seen your face around here before
Aah- it hurts, it hurts so much, it's so agonizingly painful-
I-...I'm sorr-
On top of mistaking someone's room for another's, and disturbing that someone in his sleep... you go ahead and slap him...

Smile
Maybe you should consider going on a diet??
Your gramps might die if he sees you like this
But hey, Miyuki
"Heh"?
Eh?
Yes?
Isn't he being a little too friendly?
Heh
Ah, I'm Miyuki Takizawa, from Tokyo.
Oh, so you're here to visit your grandpa.
Wh-
What's his problem!?
ぶっ
STAB
You know him grandpa?
Well, this is a small village after all.
Oh, that's probably Hayase's second son.
If I remember correctly you're both about the same age...
He didn't look sick though....
...Hmm
but the air here is better for him.
Apparently he was hospitalized in Tokyo for some time,
He's been in the hospital for quite awhile now because of some lung problems.

Back then,
I just went back because I was curious.
Grandpa says you're a demon.
So that's what he meant by "Heh..."
You better not become friends with that guy
Oh, so you came today as well?
...Well, I don't have anything else to do.
Eh?
You're not the only one who's been bitten by his poisonous fangs though...!
He... He...
He told my doctor I was hiding sake~~~!
Aren't you the one who's at fault then...
You were hiding sake!?
SQUEAK
He was laughing at me the whole time I was being told off...
NO!
He's...He's a demon!!
Saburou Takizawa (74)
Hospitalized due to a stomach ulcer caused by drinking too much alcohol
SOB SOB

I'm Madoka.
"...you better not become friends with that guy"
Heh
What is he, a child?
What else did your grandpa say?
Hm?
...Now that grandpa has mentioned it, his arms do look kinda thin.
So, you came here even though he told you not to?
Eeh? Not really!
I just forgot to ask for your name...
Ah, I see...
Madoka Hayase.
Wanna sit down?
Oh
. . .
SITS
So he's the type to smile a lot...
What's that?
Eh?
That note-book.
Ah...
It's my homework for the summer holidays.
I thought I'd do it while visiting grandpa.

Really? Let me help you,
What kinda stuff are you learning?
Oh, middle school
Eh
Don't you go to school?
I'm registered in a school, but
I've been hospitalized ever since I was a kid.
Sounds like he's got a chronic illness...
Hm...
What's this? Sunflower observation? You're already doing stuff like this in middle school?
Ah
Wai-
Don't look at it...
7/27
The flower is
Flip
Silence...
AHAHAHA-HAHAHA-HAHAHA-HAHAHA-HAHAHA-HAHAHA-HAHAHA-HAHAHA
This picture is just too much!!
Is lousy in art
S-Shut up! Shut up!
Hey, the two of you are too loud!
The doctor is currently running check-ups on other patients.
Oh, I'm so sorry!
Well then, I guess I'll...
Ah...
CREAK

Bye
Why
Uhm
.....
Can I
see you
again?
Why did I
say that?

I don't know why I said it, but
maybe
It was his pale and thin body
that seem to glisten under the sunlight
You sure surprised me!
What were you thinking when you asked me, someone who doesn't even go to school, help with your homework?
You really are an idiot.
You don't want me to help you with your homework?
Ugh
I hate you...!
Oh yeah
He entertains himself by making fun of others!
Alright you two, the exit is over there
SQUEAK
Hayase... Hayase you...!!
Shut up! Be quiet!
Oh my, why would you say that?
B—AM
I can finally leave the hospital...
Miyuki!
Thanks for visiting me everyday!
He isn't the fragile person he appears to be.
Well, knowing that I'm smarter than someone who attends school sure make me feel more confident
...I take back what I said

BAM
If you say "Please, my husband <3" I'll help you
!
cough cough
Eh
I'm sorry...
It's alright, it's just a cough
...Madoka hasn't told me anything about his illness...
But I understand that it's pretty serious
GRAB
...What's wrong? You're making such a weird face!
Wah!
flick
...It doesn't suit you.

passes slower in the countryside...
Everyday
I run like an idiot to the hospital...
my chest that hurts...
...What's this feeling?
W-
Weird? This is how I usually look!
What's up with that?
Maybe it's
It feels like time
Everyday...
Everyday...
I brought some ice-cream!

ごあいさつ

こんにちは、もしくは
はじめまして、
天乃志です。

「夏のかけら」を
手にとって下さって
ありがとうございます！

憧れの読切集です。
まさか出して頂けるとは
思わなかったので
本当に嬉しいです。
応援して下さった方々を
はじめ、色んな方々の
おかげです。
ありがとうございます～！

大分昔の作品もあって
拙さも目立ちますが
少しでも楽しんで
頂けたら幸せです。

Were you trying to make it a bit like old Japanese art for the quiet simplicity? Or did you bring the flower in a pot with you from Tokyo?
...As usual your drawings are very deep and insightful...
Shut up you...!
Chill, I'm just praising you.
That's definitely a lie.
Eh?
I've seen cut flowers and such...
But a flower growing from the earth?
I've yet to see one.
I'm serious,
I've never seen a sunflower before.
Oh, poor me~
I'm nothing but an unhappy, beautiful boy who has spent his days in hospitals for a long time...
Don't make stuff up about yourself.
Maybe
It's because Madoka makes fun of others like this
That's why those around him don't worry
...Do you want to see one?
Hm?
Not really?
QUICK RESPONSE!
Eh, why not?
Isn't there anything you want to see, or have?
Nothing in particular.
He's always smiling
jokingly
Nothing at all?
Nope.

like he's just trying to avoid everything...
It seems...
I don't mind living a carefree life~
!?
STARTLED
...AH
Something I want to see...
huh...
What could she be up to...
...Heh
...This will be interesting
.....
See ya!
Tap tap tap
Uwaah~ I gotta go back to see if I remember it correctly!
I just came up with this awesome idea
Well then,
WOAH!
H-Huh?

If I plant these near Madoka's room,
he'll be able to see sunflowers through his window next summer.
I knew there were some sunflowers here!
The next summer break...
Yay~
I'll take a bunch!
Oh?
Are you back again?
Yeah
I've got a present for Madoka.
we'll be able to see the sunflowers together.
Madoka
I have something for y-
COUGH
there's nothing that you want to see!
COUGH
Don't say something like

Eh
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH

...Ah
...Damnit...
It feels like I just saw something that I shouldn't have
...It feels like...
Oh, Miyuki
We were just talking about you.
I'm Madoka's mother.
I heard a lot of things about you from Madoka,
It seems that you're both really close.

Maybe he-
...How sad...
It seems like things
Since he doesn't have a lot of friends,
it makes me happy to hear that you two get along.
How about you come again after the summer break as well?
and visit him sometime?
Ah, wai- Miyuki!?
I didn't want to hear anything
about Madoka's condition, the name of his disease or anything else.
If Madoka doesn't say it himself,
then I don't want to hear it from anyone else either
Weren't easy for him when he was in Tokyo either...
Poor boy...

since you came to visit me everyday,
Grandpa
Was the time you stayed in hospital
Difficult?
I was happy.
Miyuki?
...Madoka
How-ever,
...Yes

Madoka
Miyuki
If you're looking for Miyuki she's at the hospital.
Again?
What is she thinking?
Oh well...
haa
haa
Someone like me
Would never be able to understand the weight of his problems.
By being with him
I might have just hurt him instead...
That may be the case
But

But

kaaa!!! Maaa-do-

...I want us to be together

She's just too embar-rassing

I want to be by

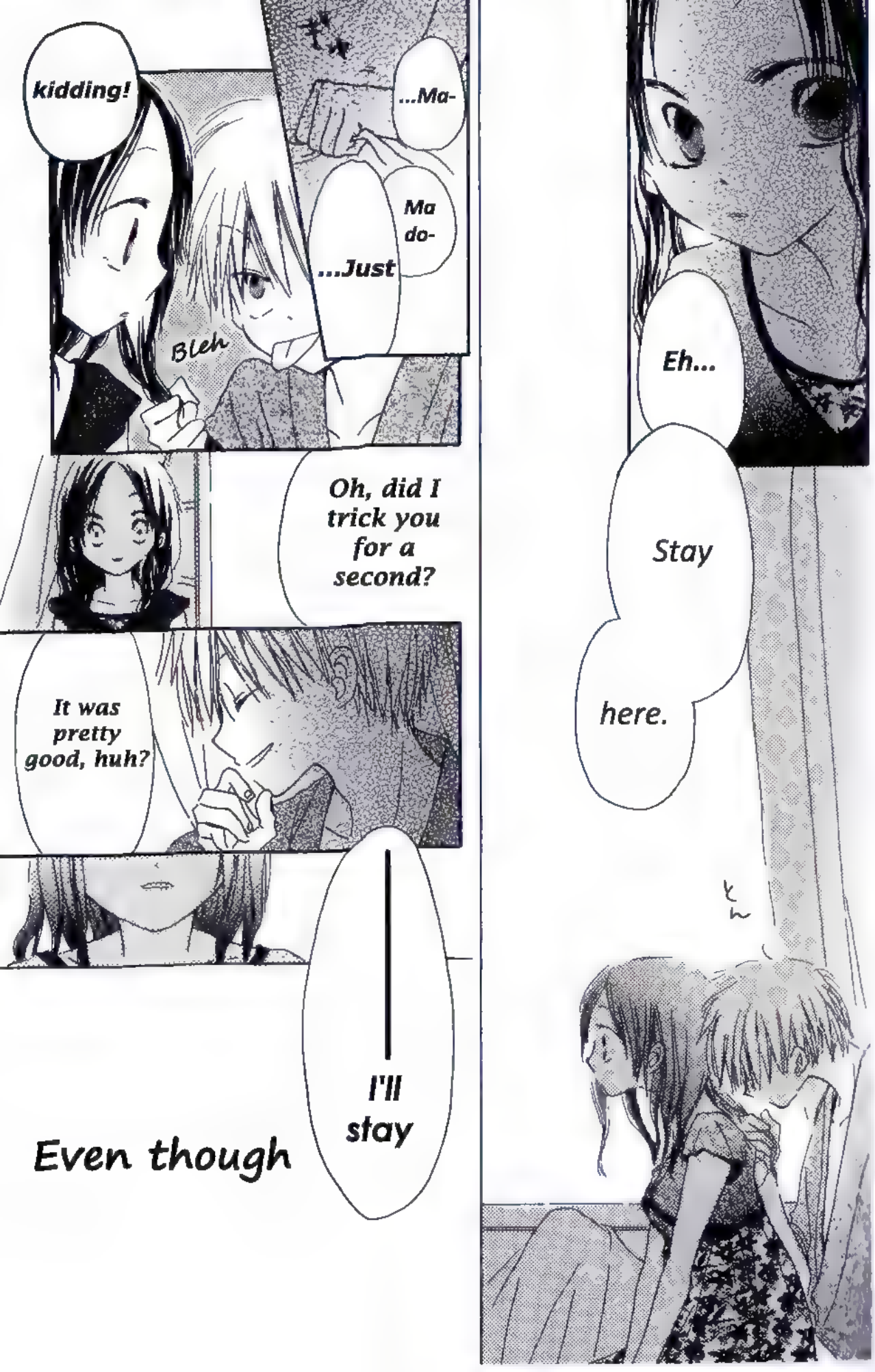
.....

Geez

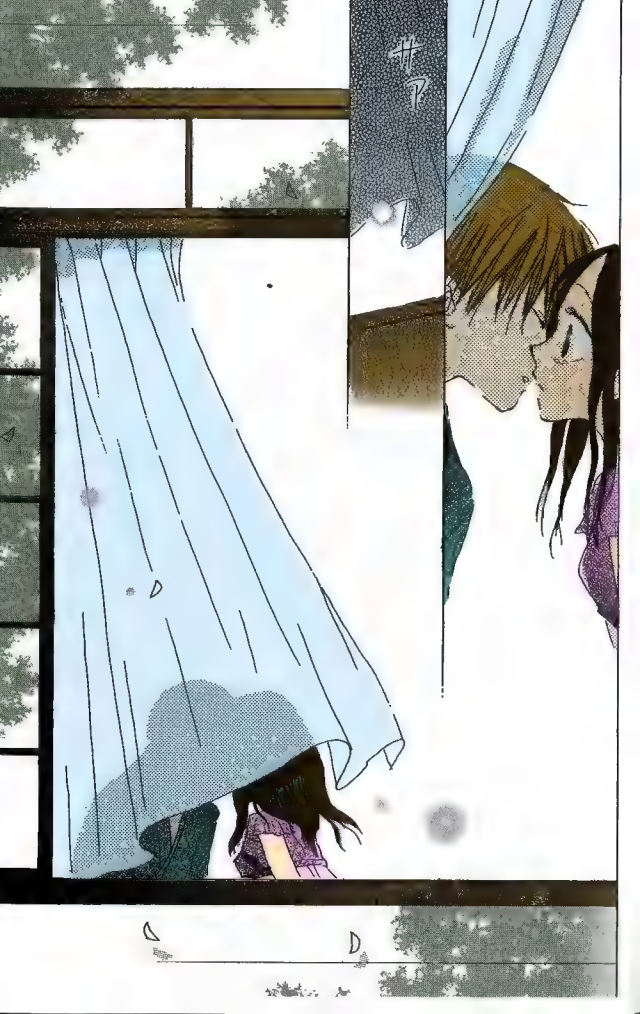
And then
...F-
The final day
The 30th of August huh... you made it just in time...
Yay!
Finally!! I finished all my home-work!!
If you're really grateful,
Evil grin
It's all thanks to you!
Oh, great Madoka.
You handsome man!
I like the sound of that...
Eh
could you show it to me?
DRAWS CLOSER
!?

Madoka's side
. . .
Idiot

*Madame Butterfly is a character from the manga "Aim for the Ace!"


kidding!
...Ma-
Ma do-
...Just
Bleh
Oh, did I trick you for a second?
It was pretty good, huh?
I'll stay
Even though
Eh...
Stay
here.

I had decided not to cry
Even though
I'll be with you forever!
I won't go back! I'll stay here with you!
I shouldn't say this
Ha?
What're you saying...
Even though I had decided to smile
. . .
I'll stay
I thought that I'd be fine with
not having anything I wanted to see, but...
...Eh?



. . .
Dummy
That was
the last time I saw Madoka's smiling face.
They had disappeared from my pocket as well.
...In the end
I couldn't bring myself to give him the sunflower seeds.

I don't think that
I'll ever get to see the sunflowers with him.
I began crying again in the car.
Since then,

To celebrate my grandfather's 77th birthday,
we decided to visit this place again.
This place sure hasn't changed.
Okay, see you.
I'll go and have a look there, okay?
I heard that.
Ah...
rustle~
Madoka didn't have enough time left for the next summer after I went back.

3 years have passed...
WHOOSH

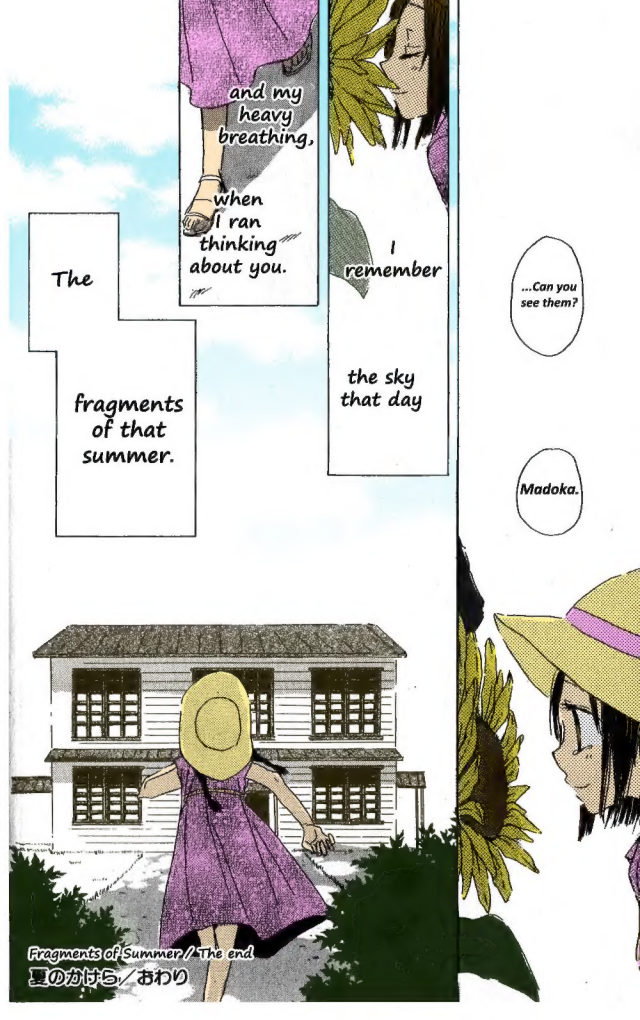
Why did I
tell him that day
"I'll be with you forever!"
It sure is hot!
I have something I want to show you, come here!
It's wonderful!
Eh
I still have
Look at you!
Oh my, Miyuki! It's been awhile.
You've grown so big!
Yeah, I haven't been able to keep in touch.
something I've been
thinking about.
he always acted like he didn't care about anything.
That's probably why
that it would have been impossible for us to be together forever.
Madoka knew better than anyone
That was the cruelest thing I could have possibly said to him.
Aah, it's here!
There are so many things
I cried in front of him and told him stupid things.

This is it!
I regret doing to him
WHOOSH
...Aren't they beautiful?
Madoka planted them.
Eh

that was when I...
He said that he found the seeds in the corridor.
Ah
Perhaps
...However, in the end he said that he didn't wish to see the flowers.
"I've already seen what I wanted to see" he said.
"Isn't there anything you want to see, or have?"
"Nothing in particular"
I was able to

Madoka
Madoka
be together with the person I wanted to see.
...Madoka

Our lips
that faintly
trembled
your smiling
face
If you
knew
that
would
you have
believed
me?
I wanted
us to be
together.
I wanted
us to be
together
the
clear
sky.
forever.


and my heavy breathing,
when I ran thinking about you.
I remember
the sky that day
The
fragments of that summer.
...Can you see them?
Madoka.
Fragments of Summer / The end
夏のかけら／おわり

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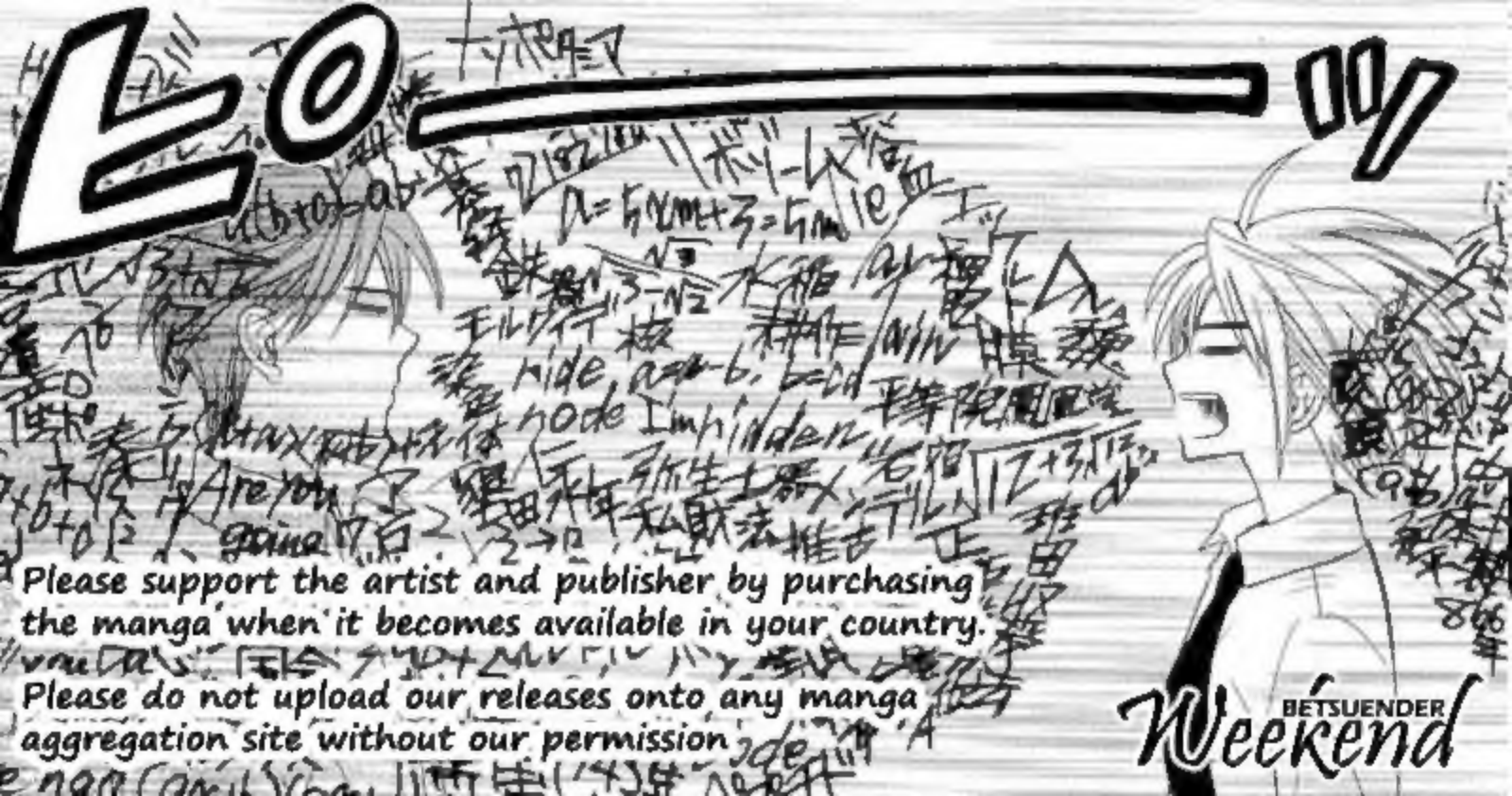
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花とゆめCOMICS

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